



61 02-19-04 RCE/1600

**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/870,483

Filing Date: June 1, 2001

First Named Inventor: Norimasa OKUDA, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1625

Examiner: Taylor V. OH

Attorney Docket Number: 04853.0072-00000

Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Note:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, application must request non-entry of such amendment.

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on [Date] \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed:

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

FEB 24 2004

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of [number] months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. Fees

a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:

i. ☒ \$770.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Petition for extension of time for ([number] Months) \$[Fee]

iii. ☒ \$72.00 additional claims fee

b. ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-0916 in the amount of \$842.00 for the above fees.

c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: William J. Lambert

Reg. No.: 44,857

Signature:

Date: February 17, 2004

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10 OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

EV 39888961 US  
USPS Express Mail Label Number

February 17, 2004  
Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450.

02/20/2004 SSITHIB1-00000109-060916-09870483

Gina M. Simon

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